

ROBERT A. CESARI (1928-2008)
JOHN F. MCKENNA
MARTIN J. O'DONNELL
THOMAS C. O'KONSKI
PATRICIA A. SHEEHAN
MICHAEL E. AYTA
CHARLES J. DARBAS
MICHAEL R. REINEMANN
KEVIN GANNON
DUANE H. DRÉGER
JAMES A. BLANCHETTE
JAMES M. BRIMKE
SHANNEN C. DELANEY
OMAR M. WADHWA
RITA M. ROONEY
MICHAEL T. ABRAMSON
STEPHEN D. LEBARRON

CESARI AND MCKENNA, LLP
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
88 BLACK FALCON AVENUE
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Telephone: (617) 951-2500 Telecopier: (617) 951-3927
Website: www.c-m.com

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A. SIDNEY JOHNSTON
EDWIN H. PAUL
OF COUNSEL

HEATHER SHAPIRO
PATENT AGENT

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FROM: James A. Blanchette

COMMENTS:

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PATENTS
112025-0821
SEQ# 8252 CPOL# 352612

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re The Application of:)	
Toerless Eckert)	
Serial No.: 10/776,940)	Examiner: Melvin H. Pollack
Filed: February 10, 2004)	
For: METHOD AND APPARATUS)	Art Unit: 2145
OF PROVIDING ZERO CON-)	
FIGURATION SINGLE)	
SOURCE MULTICASTING)	
REPORTING)	

Cesari and McKenna, LLP
88 Black Falcon Avenue
Boston, MA 02210
September 15, 2009

BY FACSIMILE to 571-273-3887

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INTERVIEW AGENDA

The Applicant presents the below interview agenda in advance of the telephonic interview scheduled for 11:00 AM on Sept. 16, 2009. The Applicant thanks the Examiner in advance for his time.

PATENTS
112025-0821
SEQ# 8252 CPOL# 352612

REMARKS

The Applicant proposes to amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for providing request compatibility in a multicast system, said method comprising:

receiving, by a layer 2 switch coupled between a group of receivers and a router, requests for traffic from said group of receivers;

determining, by said switch, whether said traffic requests contain incompatible request types;

if incompatible request types exist, then separating said traffic requests into at least two groups based on type; and

creating a first host identity at said layer 2 switch associated with a first address available to said layer 2 switch;

creating a second host identity at said layer 2 switch associated with a second address available to said layer 2 switch;

sending requests of a first group of said at least two groups from said first host identity of the said layer 2 switch -different types- to said router, and sending requests of a second group of the at least two groups from the second host identity of said layer 2 switch to said router from different addresses of the layer 2 switch, to present an appearance to said router that the requests of different types are from different hosts.

As the Applicant proposes to discuss in the telephonic interview, Suzuki and Watanauki do not suggest *“creating a first host identity at said layer 2 switch associated with a first address available to said layer 2 switch”* and *“creating a second host identity at said layer 2 switch associated with a second address available to said layer 2 switch”* and *“sending requests of a first group of said at least two groups from said first host identity of the said layer 2 switch to said router, and sending requests of a second group of the at least two groups from the second host identity of said layer 2 switch to said router.”*

Suzuki describes a multicast router (Fig. 1, 110) configured to translate “an any-source multicast group join request” sent by a client node (Fig. 1, 100) to become “a

PATENTS
112025-0821
SEQ# 8252 CPOL# 352612

source-specific multicast join request”, before forwarding it on the multicast source server. *See* Suzuki paragraph 0018, lines 1-4 and paragraph 0019, lines 1-6. The principle difference between any-source multicast routing and source-specific multicast routing is that any-source multicast routing does not specify the address of the multicast source server of the multicast packet stream, while source-specific multicast routing specifies the address of the multicast source server (i.e. its join requests contain the “source address” of the multicast source server). *See* Suzuki paragraph 0008, lines 1-7. When Suzuki’s multicast router (Fig. 1, 110) receives a packet from a client node (Fig. 1, 100) that “is not of the source-specific type” the router searches a table for an entry that matches the address of the client node, and reads from that entry the “source address” of the multicast source server. *See* paragraph 0064, lines 1-9 and 0066, 1-5. The multicast router then “translates the join request into a multicast group join request of the source-specific type” by including the “source address” of the multicast source server that was found from the table in the join message. *See* paragraph 0067, lines 1-11.

Watanuki discusses an “inter-LAN relay device 20” that checks if a layer 3 (L3) multicast protocol is used in a message, and, if so, “convert[s] the L3 multicast protocol message into an L2 multicast protocol message.” *See* Watanuki col. 5, line 7 to col. 6, line 3 and col. 7, lines 22-26.

Neither reference suggest “*creating a first host identity at said layer 2 switch associated with a first address available to said layer 2 switch*” and “*creating a second host identity at said layer 2 switch associated with a second address available to said layer 2 switch*” and “*sending requests of a first group of said at least two groups from said first host identity of the said layer 2 switch to said router, and sending requests of a second group of the at least two groups from the second host identity of said layer 2 switch to said router.*”

Should the Examiner need to contact the Applicant’s attorney in advance of the telephonic interview the undersigned attorney at (617) 951-2500.

Respectfully submitted,

PATENTS
112025-0821
SEQ# 8252 CPOL# 352612

James A. Blanchette
Reg. No. 51,477
CESARI AND MCKENNA, LLP
88 Black Falcon Avenue
Boston, MA 02210-2414
(617) 951-2500